Dear Families of Trinity Gardens School Community,

On Monday, 23 new students and their families joined our community, 18 of them beginning school for the first time. We also welcome Abbi Fenton as the teacher leader of our bubbly bunch of new Receptions. The Governing Council’s School Community Care sub-committee has invited all new families to morning tea next week to welcome them to our community and to provide an opportunity to meet each other on an informal basis. We also welcome Bill Northrop who is replacing Catherine Banner for half of the term while Catherine is in England cheering on the Australian Cricket team.

Term 2 reports were sent home during the last week of term. These form part of the school’s assessment and reporting policy. This term we hold an open night to showcase student learning. The date is 10 September. Please remember that you are invited to communicate with your child’s teacher/s at any time. So please do not hesitate to contact staff if you have any questions about your child’s achievement. This can be arranged in person or via telephone or email. Similarly, your child’s teacher will contact you if they hold any concern about progress made.

This week we acknowledge our wonderful team of Para-professionals. These people are known as SSOs which stands for School Services Officers. At our school we have 26 SSOs both female and male who provide an enormously valuable service to our students. They work in all areas of our school such as the St Morris Unit, the Early Learning Centre, classroom support, administration, grounds and maintenance, the uniform shop and in the Resource Centre. Sometimes they provide behind the scenes support such as producing this newsletter and keeping our website up to date while others work directly with children under the direction of a teacher. As this is SSO week we sincerely thank our wonderful SSOs for their contribution to our school. If you see an SSO this week I am sure they would appreciate your acknowledgement of their service.

A considerable amount of renovation occurred over the recent holidays. All classrooms have now been painted and re-carpeted creating a fresh environment for our learners. The Early Learning Centre has also been re-carpeted and the creation of a new storage area has allowed for the old store room to be converted to a new shared use space. This room has been painted and carpeted. Many thanks to the families who assisted Rowena and Joh with this big task. While on this note, special thanks should also go to the partners and children of our staff members who rallied to the cause to restore classrooms in readiness for school on Monday. Thanks also to our JP teachers who were so keen to ensure our new Literacy resources would be available as soon as possible for student use that they came in during the holidays to catalogue them. I understand some loud singing made the job go quicker.

The quadrangle has been resurfaced and cut out areas edged. The next stage in this development is to remove the rubble and replace it with good quality soil in readiness for tree planting. Eventually seating will be provided under the new shade trees making this a lovely area for social interaction between students and a pleasant waiting area for parents after school. The games marking will be re-instated once we are clearer about the re-build of the Resource Centre. During the holidays a site visit occurred to examine our school’s bid for a Commonwealth grant under the Schools for the 21st Century component of the Building the Education Revolution (BER) initiative. We are hopeful of achieving our
intention of a major upgrade of the Resource Centre along with the creation of new learning areas. Progress with our facilities improvement will be shared through the newsletter on a continuing basis so keep tuned!

Please note that changes have been made to the times local community members are allowed to walk their dogs on school property. These changes have become necessary to coincide with OSHC operating times in order that dogs do not interact with children accessing the service.

Fortunately, most dog owners using our property are responsible, for example one recently informed us about a water leak on the top oval thus saving water wastage. Adherence to the new times is appreciated.

Thank you for the very positive feedback about the class pages included in the newsletter to share student learning. I hope you enjoy this fortnight’s pages from Rooms 20A, 10D, 17A, 16J.

Kind regards,
Vicki Stokes

Quiz Night

- Licensed Bar
- Pre Order Platters
- BYO Supper
- No BYO Alcohol

Friday
30 October
7pm
Trinity Gardens School Gym

Tickets $12 per person

TICKETS NOW SELLING!!

Purchase your tickets from the front office from 24 July (eftpos accepted).
Gather your friends and family to enjoy a great fun night out.
Tables of 10 or smaller groups maybe joined together.
Licensed Bar, Pre Ordered Platters or BYO Supper, Games, Raffles and more!!
Get your tickets early, the last quiz night was a sell out!!

DONATIONS ... DONATIONS ... DONATIONS

Can you donate to the prize pool or know someone who can?
Please help make this quiz night a success by donating goods or services.
eg Wine, Sporting Goods, Vouchers etc etc. All offers appreciated.
Donations can be delivered to the front office.
All businesses who donate will be recognized in programme and newsletter.
The more donations, the more prizes, the more fun!

Please direct all queries and offers of help/donations to
Shane Waite (Fundraising and Special Events Committee) Mbl: 0417 800 622

Pre Ordered Platters
Smart quiz night contestants eat brain food!
You’ll need food to fuel your team to victory at the Quiz Night.
Viva Sustainable Food can provide your team with a supper platter filled with a variety of delicious, organic brain food to give you that winning edge!

The platters will include a selection of gourmet organic, sustainable, free-range and local produce including Cheeses, Dips, Antipasto goodies, Cold meats, Crackers and Bread.
All for only $10 per person.

Your platter is easy to organise. Fill out the form provided when you book your tickets from the TGPS front office. Return form to the front office with your platter payment.
You will be presented with your platter at the Quiz Night.

WORDS OF WISDOM

“Making the beginning is one third of the work”
Irish Proverb
Minotaurs and Devils in Room 20A

Term 2 was a busy time for Year 4s and 5s in our classroom. We expanded our knowledge of grammar and punctuation as well as continued to become experts in report and narrative writing. Our Come Out Day in May and the visit to the S.A. Water Centre and Botanic Gardens in June were great fun as well as the source of much of our learning back in our new classroom.

The excellent production of *Jason and the Argonauts* provided us with the stimulus to make comic strips and play scripts of the Greek Myths of Jason, Theseus and Daedalus. We used our scripts to design little puppets to go with our plays. In our computer time we developed our skills in locating relevant information about a number of topics such as Greek Gods and Heroes, ancient Greek clothing and food. We responded to the challenge to create a quiz using Powerpoint with links to answers. You could ask children in our class to try out their presentation and quiz in the computer room.

We are proud of our expertise at writing in the report genre and we began to write using the argument genre. In term 2, we reported or discussed a variety of topics that made us think about important issues in society such as Jumps Racing, Donating Blood, the threat to the survival of the Tasmanian Devil and the Asylum Seeker issue.

As well as improving our number skills we have learnt about area and perimeter with the question “What do people mean when they say big?” We have compared different measurements of feet and hands to try to work out if people with bigger hands have bigger feet?

By Room 20A
And last term the year 2/3 students in Rm 16J were immersed in it!

In term 2 our main topic of study was ‘Water’.

Working with Steph, we started the process by raising Inquiry questions. On their journey of discovery students used the internet, printed resources and personal investigations. They created ‘mind maps, carried out experiments, and participated in an excursion.

The children enjoyed using the interactive white board to learn about the Water Cycle and were then able to write their own information report on the topic.

During science lessons with Adam they created their own water cycle and carried out experiments to test water density, surface tension, water currents and altering the freezing point of water.

Students developed a global perspective on the topic by learning about water availability and usage in African villages and comparing it to their own usage. They developed problem solving skills when, using a website on the interactive whiteboard, they used the information about 3 different villages to explore ways of solving the water problems the villagers faced. Students were empowered to become ‘agents for change’. Firstly they discussed water wastage at school and then designed posters which they displayed near taps and toilets, to encourage other students to save water. Secondly, they wrote a persuasive note home to encourage their families to make a pledge to find further ways to save water.

The highlight of our study of water was our excursion to the SA Water Centre and the Botanic Gardens. We began at the Botanic Gardens, where acting as secret agents, the students’ mission was to investigate features of plants from different climatic zones and then to construct their own plant from a variety of leaves provided.

At the SA Water centre, using remote controls and the IWB, they participated in a class quiz on water and impressed the presenter with their knowledge and group skills. They examined water fetching devices from around the world and had great fun practising their water carrying skills.
To begin the topic, we posed our inquiry question, ‘What is healthy eating?’ Students explored what it means, the importance of a balanced diet, and how and why the body uses nutrients from food to sustain a healthy life. Each student kept a ‘Diet Diary’. They were then able to determine how balanced their diet was, and identify personal areas for improvement. With this important background knowledge, each student chose a ‘Healthy Eating’ assignment which used the virtue of service to others. The goal was to decide how they could help to make a positive difference to the healthy eating habits of their targeted audience.

To gain awareness of their preferred learning styles, each child participated in a ‘Multiple Intelligences Questionnaire’. This uses Dr Howard Gardner’s theory of intelligence or ways of learning. Depending on your background and age, some forms of intelligence are more developed than others. Knowing this, we can work on strengthening our intelligences that are not used as often. The 8 intelligences are Verbal Linguistic (Word Smart), Logical Mathematical (Logic Maths Smart), Visual Spatial (Art/Space Smart), Musical Rhythmic (Music Smart), Bodily Kinesthetic (Body Smart), Naturalist (Nature Smart), Interpersonal (People Smart) and Intrapersonal (Self Smart).

On analysing responses to the questionnaire, preferred ways of learning were identified. Students generated a graph using Excel on the computer, illustrating their use of the various intelligences. For their ‘Healthy Eating Service’ assignment, they were free to choose which one or more of these Multiple Intelligences they would use to show quality learning. Children could work on their own or with their peers. The class used all 8 intelligences.

Currently class presentations are showcasing their learning. Peer feedback, and teacher feedback and assessment, has helped students to understand how the quality of their learning could be further improved. As a result, some projects are still a work in progress. Examples of their chosen assignments include a variety of recipe books, healthy eating dance raps performed to other classes, a vegetable song (an original composition and lyrics), publication of a ‘Healthy Eating for Kids and their Families’ newsletter, various PowerPoint presentations and posters for school display on topics such as ‘Choosing Drinks’, ‘Healthy/Unhealthy Foods’, ‘Sugar’, ‘What is Healthy Eating?’, and ‘Vitamins’. One outstanding project was an exceptionally entertaining animation using a clay character. This Claymation, ‘My Best Friend’, shows why it is important to eat fruit.

“Delicious, scrumptious, nutritious recipes is the way to go, so that is why I created this wide range of recipes. From entrées to mains to desserts, my recipe booklet is all you need for a healthy, fun life”. (Shantay)

“I did a poster about what foods are healthy for you, and what foods aren’t good for you. I did this because I think that people should know how much fat unhealthy foods contain, and how much protein, carbohydrates, vitamins, minerals and calcium healthy foods contain”. (David)

“I have made a healthy rap with one of my classmates. In the rap, we talk about different fruit and vegies and why they are important to eat. We have also made up dance moves to go with it. This term we plan to perform it to some of the classes”. (Hannah M)
Creative play is an important part of the children’s day. Each day they have an opportunity to engage in play. Play materials are made from natural materials and are open-ended in nature. This allows children to bring their own imagination to how they use and play with materials. Creative play is an avenue in which children discover and make sense of their world.

Play is the children’s work, it is their learning. During play children are practicing and using various social skills. They use oral language to negotiate how the play is going to unfold and what characters and themes will be included or not included. Conversation, discussion, disagreement and problem solving are common as children learn to work cooperatively and build their skills of negotiation and compromise to create a common goal during their play.

These photos show children engaged in play outside in the sandpit. Before going into the sandpit children listened to the story of ‘Masha and the Bear’. Themes from the story such as baking and following a path into the forest to pick berries were seen in the children’s play.

STEINER RECEPTION
ROOM 10D

These photos show children engaged in play inside the classroom. Creative play is an active and busy time for the children. On this particular day children were an audience for a play on the stage while other children were focused on building with the blocks and making creations with cloths, stones, wooden animals and hand made dolls.
On Tuesday 28 July a canteen meal deal will replace normal lunch orders - No other lunch orders will be available on this day. Deal for week 2, term 3:

- **TUNA MORNAY W/RICE & LEMON WEDGE**
- **VANILLA ICE CREAM CUP**
- and a bottle of Water

All for only $6.00

I would like to order a Meal Deal including a bottle of water - for only $6.00

Name: ..........................  Room: ..........................

Amount enclosed: ..........................
Basketball begins again for the second semester of this year in Week 2 - on Monday 27 July and Tuesday 28 July.

As the school needs to pay a new team registration fee to the stadium, each basketball player will need to pay $10 to the school to continue playing basketball during the second half of this school year.

A letter requesting payment will be sent home soon.

Soccer News:
Soccer matches continues this term on Saturday morning according to your timetable.

Netball:
St Peter's Netball Club have vacancies in the junior netball teams, aged 7-12 years, for the upcoming summer season.

Boys and girls all welcome to play – make up your own class team!

Teams and grading are suitable for beginners through to the more experienced players.

Netball is a fun sport, excellent exercise and a great social activity with friends.

If you are interested in joining please phone:
Sharon Gillson
H: 8363 4090
M: 421 314 228
Mrs Lloyd
P: 8362 4808,
ASAP as nomination forms need to be completed by 15/8/09.

Thank you.

UNIFORM SWAP
WATCH THIS SPACE

Trinity Gardens Primary School will host a clothing swap for all TGPS uniform items in an effort to reduce, reuse and recycle - and save you money! The swap will be held in the middle of Term 3, on a date to be decided.

All uniform compliant items will be accepted - please, no socks, shoes or undies! Uniform clothing must be in good to excellent condition , cleaned and folded for drop-off on the days leading up to the swap.

Details will be advertised in forthcoming newsletters and on school noticeboards.

OSHC NEWS

JULY VACATION CARE

During the July Vacation Care program, children and staff enjoyed excursions to Ingle Farm Bowl Land and St Clair Recreation Centre. Stradbroke Schools Vacation Care children joined us at St Clair and we participated in roller skating, parachute games, activities with giant soccer and earth balls and other team games.

The program also had days around themes of various countries including Germany, a Japanese Star Festival, Spain, NAIDOC week, Bastille Day, Footy Fever & Africa. The children enjoyed games, art/craft and food activities based around these themes & cultures. Our African day was made extra special with a visit from Sam Oshodi. The children & staff were taught African songs and dances with the emphasis on respecting your family, each other and the environment. They all had a turn playing the drums, other musical instruments and wearing traditional hats.

Challenged by your child’s asthma?
‘Parenting Children with Asthma’

The University of Queensland is conducting research investigating the challenges faced by parents of children with asthma. This project involves a survey examining the factors that parents believe make management of childhood asthma more difficult.

What does participation involve?
Parents of children with asthma, aged 3 to 12 years, can participate by completing a set of online questionnaires about their family, their child, and their child’s asthma. These questionnaires will take approximately 15 minutes to complete.

You can complete the survey at: http://exp.psy.uq.edu.au/asthmaparents

For more information, contact
Caroline Gregory (ph: 07 3365 9186, email: caroline.gregory@uqconnect.edu.au)

Your participation will be greatly appreciated!

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Our school newsletter is available for perusal via the school website. Just go to: www.trinitygps.sa.edu.au